

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219

MAY 1 1 2015

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Thomas A. Webber, Chief Capacity Planning and Construction Branch Federal Bureau of Prisons 320 First Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20534

Dear Mr. Webber:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Leavenworth Federal Correctional Institution and Federal Prison Camp, Leavenworth, Kansas. Our review is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act 42 U.S.C. 4231, Council on Environmental Quality regulations 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. The FEIS was assigned the CEQ number 20150092.

EPA thanks you for addressing the observations and recommendations expressed in our Draft EIS comment letter. Your Final EIS reflects this agency's comments and suggestions provided to you regarding the legacy landfill, Area A. Additionally, EPA commends the Bureau's commitment to conserving energy in the design and operation of its facilities. The FEIS mentions wind energy as a potential measure of energy conservation. With these, and other operations, EPA recommends close coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to ensure that potential impacts to bats and migratory birds are taken into consideration. Effective May 4, 2015, the Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The associated interim Section 4(d) rule is currently in effect, with a 90-day comment period for the Final 4(d) rule open through July 1, 2015. Please also see the Midwest Wind Habitat Conservation Plan web page at

www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/permits/hcp/r3wind/index.html and the Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines at www.fws.gov/windenergy/docs/weg-final.pdf for more information.

I again want to commend your continued coordination efforts with this agency and entities throughout the development of the project. I encourage ongoing coordination as facility design planning and implementation activities get underway.



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amber Tucker at 913-551-7565 or via email at tucker.amber@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Hague

Acting Regional Administrator